

# Why We Need Just Health Care Model Union Resolution

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WHEREAS, health care in the United States is a national disgrace and in the throes of an escalating crisis of cost, accessibility and quality; and

WHEREAS, health insurance premiums have skyrocketed over 10% per year these past three years with no end in sight and more than 80% of all employers increased employee co-payments and premium contributions; and

WHEREAS, these increases have helped sustain a climate of concessionary bargaining, pushing down our wages, causing bitter strikes and lockouts and shifting more and more of the costs onto the backs of workers; and

WHEREAS, millions of retired Americans stand to lose all or part of their hard won "lifetime" health coverage as 80% of all large companies have plans to require retirees to pay more for their coverage and 20% of Fortune 500 companies plan to eliminate it altogether; and

WHEREAS, the employment based system of health coverage puts our benefits at risk every time we face a lay off, change our job or go on strike; and

WHEREAS, all other industrialized countries provide comprehensive coverage to all citizens regardless of employment status, putting U. S. manufacturing employers and workers at a global competitive disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, more and more of our friends, neighbors and family members have no health coverage at all as the number of uninsured Americans climbs past 44 million; and

WHEREAS, Americans pay more for health care than any other country in the world and yet we rank 28<sup>th</sup> in infant mortality, 14<sup>th</sup> in life expectancy and our freedom of choice and access to services is controlled by the profit driven dictates of HMOs and "managed care;" and

WHEREAS, the Labor Party has worked with hundreds of national, regional and local unions, community groups and public interest organizations to develop the Just Health Care campaign as a comprehensive solution to this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Just Health Care would provide cradle to grave coverage for all Americans through a public insurance fund and a private health care system with free choice of doctors, hospitals and clinics; and

WHEREAS, by taking the profit out of health care and incorporating a fair financing system, Just Health Care will ensure a just transition for all displaced health industry workers while 95% of all taxpayers save money; and

WHEREAS, our dedication, spirit and activism needs to be joined with all others who are engaged in education, action and mobilization on this issue; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby endorses the Just Health Care campaign and shall work to build a grassroots organizing and educational effort to establish cradle to grave single payer national health insurance where individuals select their own providers and where there are no premium costs, no co-pays, no deductibles, no insurance forms, no hassles and where there is Just Health Care.

**Alternate Paragraphs:**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this Resolution, copies will be forwarded to the entire State of \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional delegation, the Governor and state legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this organization shall make it a priority to meet with all candidates for the above offices to communicate our intent to continue the campaign for Just Health Care before, during and after the elections.